

THOMAS MICHAEL TURNER
"Mike"
February 23, 1943 - January 8, 2014



Thomas Michael (Mike) Turner of Humble, Texas, age of 70, passed away unexpectedly at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, on January 8, 2014. He was born on February 23, 1943 in Pensacola, to Stirling Turner and Martha (Hutchinson) Turner.

He grew up in the North Hill neighborhood of Pensacola where he matriculated at Miss Elsie's kindergarten, P.K. Yonge Grammar School, AV Clubbs Junior High School, the Marion Military Institute, graduating from Pensacola High School in 1960. He was a member of Christ Episcopal Church where he served as an altar boy.

Mike was a scratch golfer winning the Pensacola Country Club Junior Championship and playing three years for the University of Alabama Golf Team. He was a member of the ATO fraternity. In 1964 he graduated with a degree in Business Management with an emphasis in Industrial Management and Engineering, which he later put to good use throughout his career as a senior international management executive in the electronics, aeronautical and automotive industries.

From 1964 - 1968 he served as a Lieutenant with the 101st Airborne Division and reassigned to the U.S. the 1st Air Cavalry Division in Viet Nam participating in the

battle of Ia Drang among others. He was wounded while simultaneously suffering from dengue fever and sent for treatment at Camp Zama in Japan. During his convalescence he was reassigned to the US Army Proving Ground in Yuma, AZ, where in 1968 he retired with the rank of Captain.

Completing his military obligation he went to work for Texas Instruments in Dallas where he met his wife Rita. Subsequent positions were with RANCO/Siebe, Moog Automotive, and later as Chief Operating Officer of Certified Fabricators in Buena Park, CA and Datacom De Mexico in Reynosa, MX.

He retired as COO of Certified Fabricators in Rochester, NY in 2012 in order to spend more time with his family and granddaughter who lived near his home in Humble, TX. Mike suffered several adverse coronary events before retiring. His quick wit and intelligence earned him many friends and genuine respect by his peers. He was particularly proud of his wife and two sons. He always looked forward to a few beers with his lifelong golfing buddy Jackie Behr in Pensacola.

Mike is survived by his wife of 44 years Rita Turner, sons Derek Turner of Kingwood, TX, and Lance Turner (Jennifer) of North Hollywood, CA, his brother Hutch "Sandy" Turner (Phyllis) of Novato, CA, granddaughter Sydney Turner and grandson Brandon Seals.